

MARKED-UP VERSION

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. -19 (Cancelled)

20. (Currently amended) A supporting sleeve for a body stump according to claim 15, further, said supporting sleeve having at least a distal end and an open receiving end, namely a liner, comprising:
a sleeve member having an inner surface defining a concave shape proximate said distal end for bounding at least a portion of said body stump during a use thereof;

said sleeve member being at least partially an elastic and an electrically insulating material along said inner surface;

said sleeve member further comprises a first portion electrically conductive layer proximate said distal end and a second portion electrically conductive layer being spaced from said inner surface by at least a portion of said elastic and electrically insulating material of said sleeve member along said open receiving end; and

means for forming a electrically conductive region between said first and second portions of stump and said electrically conductive layer including a liner cup member at said distal end of said sleeve member.

21-23. (canceled)

24. (Currently amended) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, according to claim [[23]] 20, wherein:

 said liner cup member is one of a cup member formed from an electrically conductive material and a cup member coated with an electrically conductive material, whereby said liner cup

In Re Application of Christoph KURTH

member is in an electric communication with said electrically conductive layer.

25. (currently amended) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, according to claim 20 wherein:

a measured electrical resistance between [[a]] said surface of said stump installed in said liner and said conductive region is less than about 10^5 ohms.

26. (previously presented) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, according to claim 20, further comprising:

means for enabling a secure connection between said supporting sleeve and an external prosthesis shaft member.

27. (Currently amended) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, according to claim [[20]] 26, further comprising:

said means for enabling a secure connection being one of an electrically conducting means and an electrically insulating means.

28. (canceled)

29. (Currently amended) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, namely a liner, comprising:

a sleeve member having a shape for bounding at least a distal end of said body stump;
said sleeve member being at least partially an elastic and an electrically insulating material;
said sleeve member further comprises an electrically conductive layer shaped for bounding at least a portion of said stump;

at least a portion of said elastic and electrically insulating material for spacing said electrically conductive layer spaced from said distal end of said stump during a use; by at least a portion of said elastic and said electrically insulating material; and

means for forming a electrically conductive region between said stump and said electrically

In Re Application of Christoph KURTH

conductive layer during said use of said liner.

30. (New) A supporting sleeve for a body stump, according to claim 20, wherein:
said electrically conductive layer includes at least one of an electrically conductive elastomeric material, an electrically conductive textile material, electrically conductive threads of graphite, an electrically conductive metallic material, and electrically conductive plastic material.
31. (New) A supportive sleeve for a body stump, according to claim 20, wherein:
said electrically conductive layer is a matrix of an electrically conductive material enclosed by an elastic material.
32. (New) A supportive member, configured to conform to an external stump, comprising:
a supportive concave sleeve having an inner surface defining a receiving concave shape having an inner distal end and an opposing outer open non-distal end;
said supportive concave sleeve being an elastic electrically insulating material;
a partially rigid liner member in said supportive concave sleeve having a first portion and a second portion;
said first portion of said liner member being electrically conductive and being on said inner surface of said concave shape at said distal end thereof opposite said non-distal end; and
a second portion of said liner member having a concave shape and being electrically conductive and extending away from said first portion within an inner portion of said supportive concave sleeve, whereby said second portion is electrically conductive with said first portion but is spaced from said inner surface of said elastic insulating material of said sleeve and electrically separated there from.
33. (New) A supportive member, according to claim 32, wherein:
said first portion and said second portion of said liner member being an electrically

In Re Application of Christoph KURTH

conductive layer; and

said electrically conductive layer constructed from at least one of an electrically conductive elastomeric material, an electrically conductive textile material, an electrically conductive fiber material, an electrically conductive metallic material, and an electrically conductive plastic material.

34. (New) A supportive member, according to claim 33, wherein:

said electrically conductive layer includes a matrix of an electrically conductive material enclosed by an elastic material.

35. (New) A supportive member, according to claim 34, wherein:

said matrix is at least one of an ordered and a disordered assembly of thread members of an electrically conductive material.

36. (New) A supportive member, according to claim 33, further comprising:

an electrically conductive cup member in said electrically conductive layer proximate said first portion thereof.

37. (New) A supportive member, according to claim 36, further comprising:

means for enabling an electrical connection between said conductive cup member and an external prosthesis member.